

12. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~38~~¹ which is a
D1 treatment for autoimmune diseases.

13. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~38~~¹ which is a
treatment for viral diseases.

25 ~~26~~ (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~40~~^{15/16} which is a
treatment for inflammatory diseases.

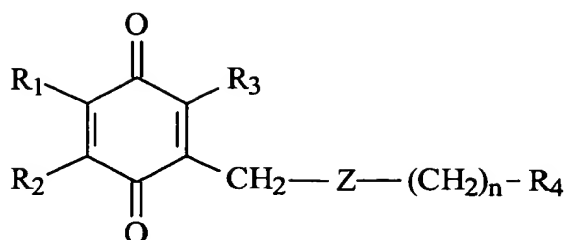
~~26~~ ~~27~~ (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~40~~^{15/16} which is a
treatment for autoimmune diseases.

~~27~~ ~~28~~ (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~40~~^{15/16} which is a
treatment for viral diseases.

28 ~~29~~ ~~30~~ (Twice Amended) A method for treating diseases caused by the activation
D3 of NF- κ B comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by
Sub the following general formula (1):
G1

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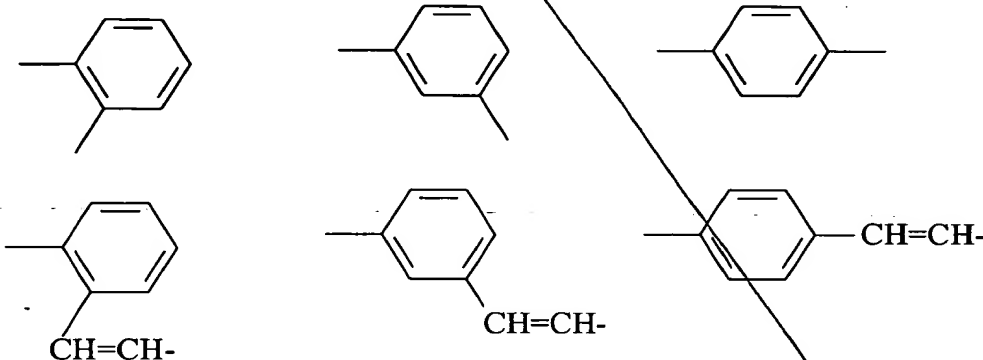
Sub
C1
D3

wherein

R₁, R₂, and R₃ are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R₄ is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



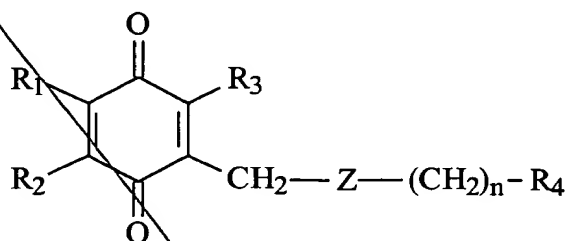
and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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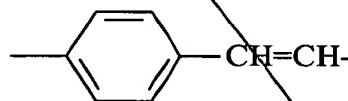
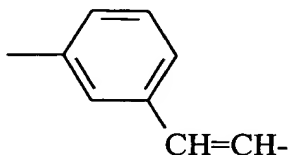
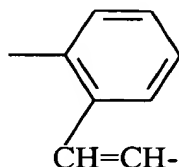
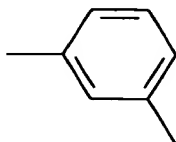
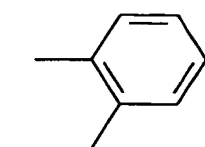
29 ~~30~~
41. (Twice Amended) A method for treating diseases caused by the excessive
production of TNF- α comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative
represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R₄ is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,

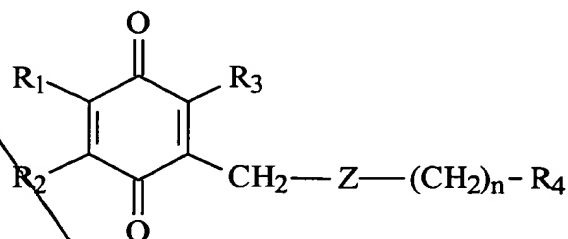
or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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Please add the following new claims 42-43:

--42. A method for preventing diseases caused by the activation of NF- κ B comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by the following general formula (1):

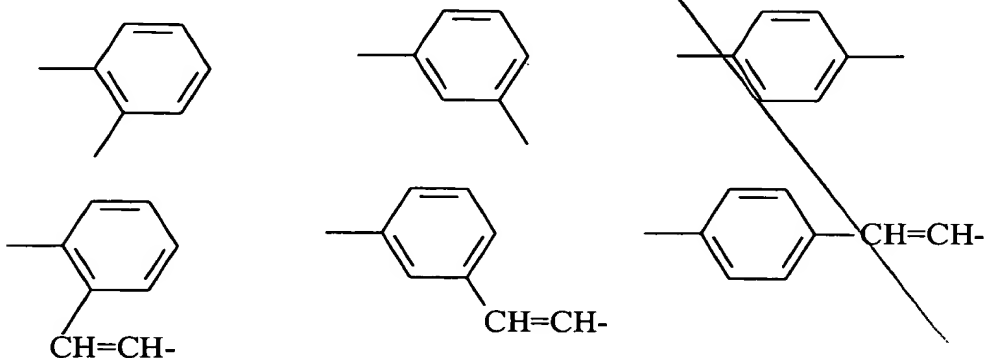


wherein

R_1 , R_2 , and R_3 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R_4 is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is

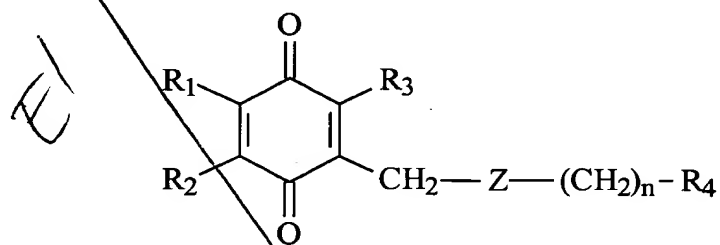


D

and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

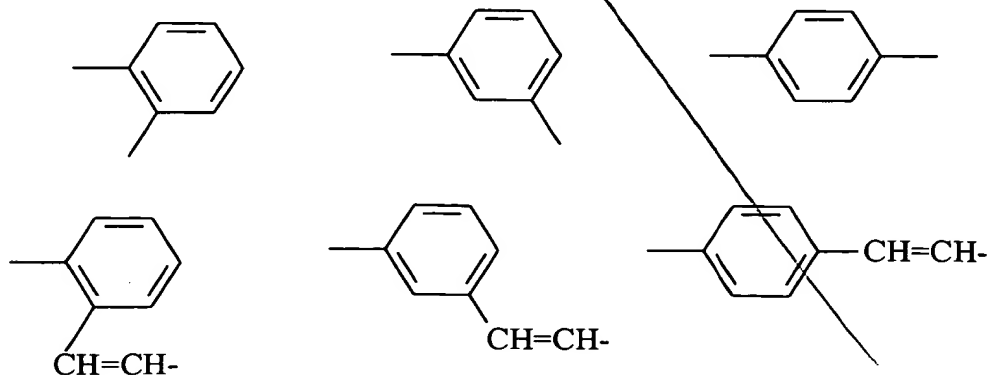
43. A method for preventing diseases caused by the excessive production of TNF- α comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R₄ is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



D

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and, n is an integer from 0 to 6, $\frac{1}{2}$

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.--

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